(b) and (c) No, Sir. No specific complaint about non-implementation of the Scheme in any State has been brought to the notice of the Government.

The Guidelines of ADWDR Scheme provide that any farmer who is aggrieved on the ground that his name has not been included in the lists of waiver/relief or on the ground that his name has been included in the wrong list or on the ground that the relief granted to him has been calculated wrongly, may make a representation through the branch from which he received the loan or directly to the Grievance Redressal Office of the lending institution concerned and every such representation shall be disposed of within 30 days of receipt thereof by passing appropriate orders thereon.

Acute shortage of employment opportunities

†1081. SHRI PYARELAL KHANDELWAL: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that appreciation in the value of Rupee against Dollar in last three years has led to acute shortage of employment opportunities;

(b) if so, year-wise number of employment opportunities reduced;

(c) whether even after depreciation in the value of the Rupee against Dollar during the current financial year, employment opportunities have been in shortage;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor;

(e) details of reduction in employment opportunities during the current financial year;

(f) whether any action plan has been chalked out by Government to tackle this situation; and

(g) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL): (a) and (b) As per Reserve Bank of India (RBI) data, rupee appreciated against the dollar in 2005-06 over previous year. However, it depreciated in 2006-07 and, again appreciated in 2007-08. Even within each of these three years, there have been monthly fluctuations in the value of rupee against the dollar and sometimes, rupees has moved in opposite direction *vis-a-vis* other major currencies like Euro, Yen and Pound. Though data on employment based upon quinquennial sample surveys of National Sample Survey Organisation (NSSO) comes with a lag and is only available up to 2004-05, export growth rates during 2005-06 to 2007-08 were high at 23.4 per cent, 22.6 per cent and 28.9 per cent respectively and economic growth was high at 9.5 per cent, 9.7 per cent and 9.0 per cent respectively.

(c) to (e) Employment opportunities in the current financial year have been affected by the global financial crisis and economic slowdown in the major markets of India. While comprehensive employment data for current financial year is not available, as per a sample surveys conducted by

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

Labour Bureau, Ministry of Labour and Employment for a sample of 2581 units during October-December, 2008, there was decrease in employment in industries/sectors of mining, textiles, metals, gems and jewellery, automobile and transport. A sample survey conducted by the Department of Commerce for 402 exporting units spread over 17 different sectors primarily employment oriented, revealed job loss (direct and indirect) to the tune of 1,09,513 persons during August, 2008 to mid January, 2009.

(f) and (g) Government is concerned about the possible impact of global financial crisis on the Indian economy including employment. Several measures, financial and fiscal, have been taken which include among others, RBI's measures to enhance liquidity in the market and the Government's fiscal stimulus to help industrial growth and employment by across the board reduction in *ad-valorem* Cenvat rate by 4 per cent on non-petroleum products and products where current rate was less than 4 per cent; support to labour intensive exports like textiles, leather, gems and jewellery and marine products by providing interest subvention of 2 per cent on pre and post shipment export credit; withdrawal of export duty on iron ore (fines) and additional plan expenditure in the current year; etc. Further, more than 3.5 crore households have been provided employment under National Rural Employment Guarantee Act in the current financial year till now.

Vacant reserved posts in nationalized banks

1082. SHRI NANDI YELLAIAH: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the prescribed norms of filling up the vacant reserved post for Scheduled Castes (SCs)/ Scheduled Tribes (STs) are being fully adhered to by all the nationalized banks;

(b) if so, the names of the banks where the entire backlog of SCs/STs vacancies has been filled up along with the names of the banks where it is yet to be filled up, indicating the number of vacant posts in each of these banks, category-wise; and

(c) the factors responsible for non-filling of the posts reserved for SCs/STs in these banks?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL): (a) Yes, Sir. The Nationalized Banks are adhering to the prescribed norms of filling up the vacant reserved posts for Scheduled Castes (SCs)/Scheduled Tribes (STs).

(b) There are no backlog vacancies of SCs/STs in the Bank of Maharashtra, Central Bank of India, Corporation Bank, State Bank of India and United Bank of India.

The names of Banks and category-wise information indicating backlog and vacancies of SCs/STs are given in the Statement. (*See* below).

(c) The backlog of SCs/STs vacancies is due to non availability of SC/ST candidates in the direct recruitment/promotion process, non reporting of some of the selected candidates and the reserved category candidates not clearing the written examination even after relaxed standards.